NEW PRESIDENT'S WELCOME ADDRESS TO THE HOUSE.

PRESIDENT: Before we go on to the next item of business, as this is the first meeting over which I have the honour to preside, I wish to welcome you all and to express the hope that we will work together for the good of the State and in loyalty to His Highness the Maha Raja.

RAO BAHADUR A. VENKATARAMA AIYAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): On behalf of the members of this House, elected and nominated, Sir, I assure you that we extend to you our hearty co-operation in seeing that the object of the institution of this Council is fulfilled as much as possible.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): Sir, I question the right of the *nominated* Deputy President to represent the *elected* section of the Council. With all respect to him I do that.

RAO BAHADUR A. VENKATARAMA AIYAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): It is on behalf of those members whom I have consulted that I am speaking. If my friend does not allow me to represent him it may be taken that I am speaking on behalf of others who have agreed to it.

As you are aware, Sir, this Council has been in existence for forty-four years, and has been functioning in its present form for about a decade. During this period, we have been legislating and enacting laws, not only on the lines of the statutes in force elsewhere, but also Regulations, original in their nature, which have been adopted as models by other legislatures. We now have extended powers conferred upon this House. These have been exercised by us, on this side of the House, with moderation and care, trying our best to help the Government in the proper administration of the State, by bringing, to the notice of Government, the excesses of their officers, and also by placing within reach matters which really work hardship on the people. We sincerely trust, Sir, that, in your stewardship, you would maintain the traditions of this House, and enable this Council to see that the purpose for which it has been established is fulfilled to the largest extent possible.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Sir, I may assure you that when Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai raised a voice of protest when the Deputy President began to speak in response to what you said from the Chair, he did not mean to suggest that your hopes cannot be expected to be realised so far as it lies legitimately within the province of the non-official members of this House. We are always prepared to co-operate to the fullest extent possible, with the Government, in all that they do for the advancement of the interests of the people; and I assure you that you can expect the whole-hearted support from us in all that the Government are doing on behalf of the people of the State. I also wish that your administration may be crowned with success, and that at the time you lay down your office you would be in a position to look back and say that the interests of the State have advanced during your stewardship.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*): In view of the explanation given by Mr. Thanu Pillai about my conduct, I do not think any words

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[Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai.]

are necessary from me. I am sure that my friend the Deputy President would not misunderstand my protest against a nominated member speaking on behalf of the elected members. It is not a personal slight. Since he was a nominated member we could not, with self-respect, refrain from protesting against *his* speaking on *our* behalf. I had the painful duty of raising this protest once before when Mr. K. A. Krishna Aiyangar, of revered memory, also wanted to speak on *our* behalf. I do not stand behind anybody in extending to the Government our whole-hearted co-operation in all fields of work in which the interests of the people, the safety of society and the progress of the State in general are concerned. I do not think it is necessary for me to emphasise that. I hope you will not misunderstand me, Sir.

REFERENCE TO THE LATE RAO BAHADUR K. A. KRISHNA AIYANGAR.

RAO BAHADUR A. VENKATARAMA AIYAR (*Nominated, Deputy President*): Sir, I rise again to discharge a painful duty, the duty of bringing to the notice of this House the sad and sudden death, after this House adjourned last time, of one of its esteemed members, and its then Deputy President, I mean, Rao Bahadur K. A. Krishna Aiyangar. At that time, he was hale and hearty; in fact, he was moving about the State and visiting several stations in connection with the work of this Council. He held meetings of the Select Committee on the Kshatriya Bill and collected evidence at several places as desired by this Council. When he reached this town to preside over the meetings of some Select Committees appointed in connection with certain Bills now before the Council, he took suddenly ill and passed away.

Mr. Krishna Aiyangar was born of poor parents in one of the suburban villages of the headquarters of the neighbouring District of Tinnevelly. He studied in the local Maha Raja's College, and after graduating there, took up service as an attache in the Dewan's Office, which corresponds to the present Secretariat. After a short period, he resigned that appointment and took up the Headmastership of the Town High School, one of the flourishing institutions of the grade in this town at that time. He continued there for only a short period. Then he took his degree in law and joined the Bar of the High Court here. A short time afterwards, he shifted the scene of his labours to Alleppey, where, within a few years, he became the accredited leader of the Bar, which place he occupied for nearly three decades. Of his achievements at the Bar, this is neither the place nor the occasion to expatiate upon. But it may be said that, during the last two decades, he took a prominent part in seeing that differences between the members of several leading and opulent families in Central and North Travancore were settled out of court, and that the disputes between members of leading trading concerns there, were also similarly settled by him. Thereby the parties affected by such differences were saved from ruinous litigation. He was for a long time the President of the Alleppey Municipal

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